UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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DP/PROJECTS/2792
(NIR/76/009)
1 February 1980

ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

Project title and number:	Establishment of Documentation and Information Unit (OPAS) (NIR/76/009)
Executing Agency:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Government co-operating agency:	National Science and Technology Development Agency
Date of approval:	June 1978
Starting date for project operations:	October 1978
Duration:	Three years
Estimated value of the Government input expressed in US dollars:	$291 500 (In kind
Estimated UNDP contribution:	$155 300
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The Secretariat of the Nigerian National Science and Technology Development Agency has carried out a number of surveys on the country's scientific and technological potential. However, at present the country lacks the expertise needed for the documentation and storage of the data procured and other scientific and technical information is limited. There is a need therefore for the services of a UNDP/UNESCO operational expert (OPAS) to assist in establishing a documentation and information unit. The primary function of the unit will be to develop systematic documentation facilities for the storage, retrieval and dissemination of scientific and technical information. The users of this information will include Government departments responsible for national development, research institutes, universities and individual research scientists. A statistics section will establish and maintain a current inventory of national scientific and technological potential in terms of manpower, expenditures, national facilities and equipment, scientific and technical information, on-going programmes and research projects and results obtained. No other technical assistance is being received in this field.

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II. The project

3. The development objective of the project is to provide support for the development of science and technology in Nigeria through documentation and dissemination of the scientific information necessary to ensure the implementation of science and technology plans and the speedy utilization of the results of scientific research in national economic and social development. The immediate objectives are to: establish a documentation and information unit; develop systematic documentation facilities for stroage, retrieval and dissemination of scientific and technical information; and publish scientific and technological information which will facilitate speedy utilization of research results among various users within the country.

4. UNDP will provide an operational expert. The Government will establish a post for the expert and provide counterpart staff, accommodation, and support services.

5. The expenditure components of the UNDP contribution are as follows:

	m/m	$
Experts	36	154 000
Miscellaneous		1 300
		155 300

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